One-out singles by Barnes and Garett Kueber started the Volcanoes threat, then Mavericks right-hander loaded the bases when he hit Jones, the nine-batter, with a fastball, bringing up Kyriacou in the leadoff spot.

After looking at a couple pitches, Kyriacou came through with the first extra-base hit of the ball game, driving a two-run double down the right field line, putting Salem-Keizer on top 4-2.

Newman was replaced by Travis Edgar, who struck out the first batter he faced, but the ball reached the backstop on a wild pitch, allowing another run to come in and score.

Ruby and Gabriel Cotto each had RBI-hits later in the frame to break the game open, giving the Volcanoes the 8-2 advantage.

"It all starts with a big hit. Once we get that momentum, we start to put together better at-bats. We worked the count and we got on base," Torcato said.

Closer Matt McDonald, who came into the game in the top of the eighth with a runner on second, was the Volcanoes fourth pitcher of the night. Despite the Mavericks getting three runs in the frame, and bringing the tying run to the dish in the top of the ninth, McDonald was still able to shut the door to get his fifth save of the season.

"We have been going with Johnny Whole-Staff the last couple of weeks," joked Torcato. "We have been piecing together our bullpen and trying to get guys in at the right time. But I have a lot of confidence in our bullpen."

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LEFT: Brenden Nipp threw 4.2 innings for the Volcanoes, giving up two earned runs and three hits on 73 pitches. RIGHT: Tony Holton prepares to dive into third base. Photo by MATT RAWLINGS of Keizertimes



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